

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 RSR-01

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R 021535Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7938

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, EFTA, SZ

SUBJ: SWISS CONCERN OVER EFFECT OF GATT CONSIDERATION OF EC
AGREEMENTS ON PROSPECTS FOR MTN

1. DURING PAST SEVERAL DAYS, ECONCOUNS HAS SPOKEN TO AMBASSADORS JOLLES (DIRECTOR), PROBST (IN CHARGE OF GATT AND LONG-RANGE TRADE POLICY), JACOBI (IN CHARGE OF US-SWISS TRADE RELATIONS), AND DR. VON TSCHARNER (INTEGRATION BUREAU), ALL OF SWISS TRADE DIVISION. CONVERSATIONS WITH THESE SENIOR SWISS TRADE OFFICIALS REVEAL CONCERN OVER IMPASSE IN GATT CONSIDERATION OF EC AGREEMENTS ENTERED LAST YEAR AND PROSPECTS THAT CONSIDERATION WILL STILL BE PENDING IN SEPTEMBER. THEY FEAR THAT BEST THAT CAN BE DEVELOPED BEFORE SEPTEMBER TOKYO MEETING WILL BE AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE TO DISAGREE, WITH POSSIBLY FURTHER REFINEMENT OF POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT. IF US OR OTHER CP'S SHOULD INSIST UPON CONCLUSION GATT CONSIDERATION OF LAST YEAR'S EC AGREEMENTS AS PRECONDITION TO MTN, SWISS FEAR THAT DELAY IN START ON MTN WOULD ENGENDER

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FURTHER DELAY AND PLAY INTO HANDS OF THOSE IN EC WHO ARE COOL

TO MTN IN ANY EVENT. SHOULD MOMENTUM TOWARD MTN BE BROKEN,
THEY DOUBT IT COULD BE STARTED UP AGAIN IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

2. ATTACK ON PRINCIPLE OF EC-EFTA NONAPPLICANT AGREEMENTS HAS
PUT GATT CONSIDERATION OF THESE AGREEMENTS ON FALSE TRAIL,
ACCORDING TO SWISS. WHETHER AGREEMENTS CONFORM TO GATT IS NON-
NEGOTIABLE, AND CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF PRINCIPLE DEFLECTS
ATTENTION FROM COMPENSATION FOR ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL TRADE DAMAGE.
THIS POINT IS OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE IN CONSIDERATION OF RULES
OF ORIGIN WHERE SWISS HAVE SYMPATHY FOR US POINT OF VIEW AND
WOULD LIKE TO REACH AN ACCOMMODATION. (SEE SEPTTEL.) HOWEVER,
FORCE AND DIRECTION OF US APPROACH TO EC-SWISS AGREEMENT HAVE
HAD PRACTICAL EFFECT OF LIMITING SWISS FLEXIBILITY IN REACHING
ACCOMMODATIONS THAT WOULD SATISFY US REQUIREMENTS.
DAVIS

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